

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JACKIE D. MÉNDEZ FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Jackie D. Méndez. Jackie is the founder and editor-in-chief of *Tu Revista Mujer*, Florida's first Spanish, female-focused health magazine. Established in 2009, the publication was created to address the health issues surrounding the Latina community. It is the first of its kind to interview celebrities and leaders of the Hispanic community to advocate for personal care and better quality of life.

Jackie is also one of the founders of *Talleres de Bienvenida*, the informative conferences for newcomers to Central Florida. Jackie is also the current executive director of the Pan American Medical Association of Central Florida—producing events, developing medical directories, and hosting health-minded programming for the community.

Born in Spain and raised in Puerto Rico, her career started with a degree in journalism from the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. She also worked at Casiano Communications as a sales manager of Buena Vida Magazine and GTV Magazine, and as the editor of Comercio and Produccion for the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce, before moving to Florida in 2002 with her two daughters. There, she began a career in advertising at *El Nuevo Día* Orlando, and in 2012, she became the communications director of the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida.

Mrs. Méndez's life's motivation is to serve others through education and awareness on issues of health knowledge. Her philosophy is that knowledge is the primary tool to combat ignorance and leads to valuable new perspectives.

For this and more, we honor Jackie D. Méndez.

ANTHONY JIMENEZ, EAGLE SCOUT

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, in December of 2019, Anthony Jimenez earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He attends Rowan University in the music education program and just completed his first year. Anthony participated in the marching band and was awarded the rookie of the year award and has earned a leadership award every year after that. For Anthony's Eagle Scout project, he started a music program at Daniel's Den Community Center in Vineland, South Jersey. He donated and collected over 20 musical instruments

needed for the project and put in 130 hours of work dedicated to the launching of the music program. Over the course of Anthony's time as a scout, he earned 26 merit badges, and held positions as troop bugler, patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, and senior patrol leader. In addition to all his successes, he is currently teaching eight merit badges to younger boy scouts online. Anthony is an inspiration to his peers and is looked up to by his fellow scouts and I know he will go on to achieve great things. God Bless Anthony and God Bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on September 30, 2021 due to not being physically present in the District of Columbia. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: NO on Roll Call No. 311.

Today I was unable to vote on the Continuing Resolution due to being at an important hearing outside of the District of Columbia on behalf of a highly decorated Marine who is currently confined. The Democrats had a conclusive number of votes to pass the bill in the House of Representatives and my recorded vote of "no" would unfortunately not change the outcome. However, with the liberties of an American patriot and service member, Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Stuart Scheller, hanging in the balance, I came to his assistance to testify in person on his behalf.

When a member of Congress with my prior experience can potentially help someone who has repeatedly risked his life for our nation, it seems I have a duty to fight for the liberty and rights of all American citizens. A weighty decision had to be made, but protecting the legal rights and liberties of Americans, particularly one who has sacrificed so much, was the only choice to make. It is unfortunate that Democrats continue to spend at unsustainable levels and without any appreciation of the fact that their irresponsibility today jeopardizes the freedom of all Americans—those living today as well as those not even born yet.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Ukraine Caucus, I join Liberty lovers around the globe in congratulating Ukraine on its 30 years of restored independence.

Since my first trip to Ukraine in 1973, it has been an honor to watch Ukraine's inspirational

path to Liberty. In the dark days of Soviet-Russian occupied Ukraine, there were very few cars on the street, the buildings were gray, and people lived their lives in the shadow of secret police oppression. Yet, while Ukraine's progress has at times been jagged, even then, I personally witnessed her people's thirst for Liberty, and their desire to live in an open society.

Today's Ukraine is religiously and ethnically diverse, vibrant, and yes, a democracy. Her people have decided to cast off the yoke of Russian oppression. They wish to join the community of democracies, the Euro-Atlantic nations, and importantly NATO.

The U.S. Congress on a bipartisan basis has been the backbone over generations to support these aspirations. Ukraine's success is critical for U.S. national security. Indeed, she is on the scrimmage line for Liberty on the European continent.

The Congressional Ukraine Caucus strongly condemns Russia's ongoing illegal war and occupation of Ukrainian territories. The U.S. House of Representatives voted to increase security assistance by \$25 million for fiscal year 2021. To counter Russia's weaponization of energy against our allies and partners, the House unanimously adopted our bipartisan amendment in the FY22 National Defense Authorization Act to fully sanction the Nord Stream 2 pipeline. The Congress also strongly supports the U.S. pledge for \$1 billion in the Three Seas Fund to strengthen the region's energy resilience.

While our Caucus celebrates Ukraine's 30 years of restored independence, we also commemorate the 80th anniversary and honor the lives lost at the Babyn Yar massacre. We shall never forget the precious lives lost in this atrocity and in the Holocaust. We must work together to uncover historical truth to allow for historical reconciliation and to ensure acts like these never happen again.

In conclusion, our Caucus looks forward to working with freedom defenders around the world to ensure a Ukraine that is democratic, secure, prosperous, and at peace.

Onward Liberty, Onward Ukraine, Slava Ukraini.

HONORING DR. DIANA MEJIA FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Dr. Diana Mejia. Dr. Mejia is a dedicated and passionate advocate against domestic violence. As an activist for Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Advocacy for Change, Dr. Mejia aims to create a highlighted awareness within municipal and government agencies of a need for change in policies and legislation to enhance education and services that protect victims and survivors of violence and sexual abuse.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Dr. Mejia has an 18-year track record of serving the culturally diverse population of Orlando, Florida, which is composed primarily of Hispanic women and their children. Through her work, Dr. Mejia has been able to mentor, teach, support, and advocate for many of these women and families. As a prevention practitioner provider, she continues to help families affected by sexual violence in the management of culturally relevant services, including immigrant communities, faith-based organizations, seminars, and culturally specific programs geared to prevent sexual violence. She has a particular passion for advocating for male survivors as well, and she has been invited to work in collaboration with the Mexican and Colombian consulates to educate their communities in Central Florida.

For this and more, we honor Dr. Diana Mejia.

MATTHEW PAULSON, EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Matthew Paulson who recently passed his Eagle Board of Review to become an Eagle Scout. Matthew graduated from Cumberland Christian School in Vineland, South Jersey where he was a four-sport starting senior for basketball, baseball, soccer, and track. He was also a National Honor Society member and plans to attend Rowan University in the business management program. He is also very involved in his church where he volunteers as the leader of the church's technology crew. For Matthew's Eagle Scout project, he completed a playground restoration for Cumberland Christian School. He recruited and supervised 34 workers for over 265 hours to complete the project. Students at the school have had the opportunity to enjoy the playground renovation because of Matthew's willingness to make a difference for his community. Matthew is a born leader, as he served as his troop's patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, chaplain's aide, quartermaster, and troop guide. God Bless Matthew and all he has done for his community and God Bless America.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Country Club Christian Church. Since 1921, this church has received everyone, regardless of background, with open arms into their religious community. This church has made a tradition of service since its very inception, serving as a center of support for those who call Kansas City home. It is a great pleasure to have this house of worship and pillar of faith in my Congressional District.

Country Club Christian Church was founded in 1921 and it bears the name of its location, the Country Club District. While the church's name may bring to mind images of exclusivity, the church serves under the motto that "all means all," and they have always been committed to providing for and including each and every one of their neighbors. The church has been led by both male and female pastors and ordained its first LGBTQ Minister in 2013. Through its inclusive and loving community, Country Club Christian Church has embodied the notion of loving thy neighbor, making it a central message and mission at this parish.

Not only is Country Club Christian Church a center of worship but also a hub of service in its community. The church participates in community outreach and service, helping its marginalized members by partnering with Cross-Lines Community Outreach Food Kitchen every first Tuesday of the month to serve food to its members. Along with helping those neighbors within Kansas City, this church extends its arms to help newly arrived refugees and immigrants settle into their new homes in our community by providing them support through their transition into a new country.

Around the world, this church has embarked upon missions in Nicaragua, Haiti, South Africa, and India as well as several locations in the United States to provide service, a place of worship, and support for others. While on these missions, Church members helped build water filtration systems for a community in Nicaragua, delivered clothing and gifts to children in Haiti, and provided health services while in India. Additionally, the church organizes a Christian Community Camp each year. Held in the Rocky Mountains, this expedition allows members of the church to build friendships with each other while also growing and expanding their faith.

Country Club Christian Church has served for over a century, and that spirit of service holds true today. The assembly is a clearly devoted group which includes Federal District Judge Steve Bough and his wife, Kansas City Councilwoman Andrea Bough. Madam Speaker, because of the church's decades of service and commitment to communities at home and abroad, please join me in celebrating and honoring Reverend Carla Aday and the congregation of Country Club Christian Church for achieving this milestone. May the next 100 years be just as fruitful.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Delaware River Basin Commission.

60 years ago, under President Kennedy, governors from Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York came together to sign concurrent compact legislation to form a regional body in order to protect, manage, and improve the Delaware River Basin. This profound coming together of the federal government and state governments as equal partners in signing of the Delaware River Basin Compact was a first in our nation's history.

Working together regardless of political boundaries, the Delaware River Basin Commission has worked tirelessly to ensure the health of the Delaware River and the surrounding ecosystems and communities through implementing flood damage reduction, protecting fisheries, abating and controlling stream pollution, improving water quality, and more.

I thank the Delaware River Basin Commission for their work, and congratulate them on their 60th Anniversary.

HONORING CRAMER VERDE IN
HONOR OF HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Cramer Verde. Cramer was raised in Peru and now makes Florida his home. As a child, his father's work as a city councilman and business owner sparked his interest in helping others. He continues this legacy to this day, and still remembers his early involvement in supporting his hometown through community efforts.

Cramer received a degree in marketing and business administration from San Ignacio de Loyola University in Lima, Peru. There, he worked closely with the school administration and was president of the University Social Alliance. This student nonprofit organization worked with the vice president of Peru to provide educational and medical material to kids in low-income communities. These experiences helped cultivate Cramer's drive for success and spirit of hard work.

When Cramer moved to Sarasota in 2003, he quickly saw a need to change immigration policies and other issues. He mobilized and got involved with numerous organizations like UnidosNow, the ACLU of Florida, and LULAC Florida. Presently, he serves as political director of LULAC Florida and president of the Sarasota chapter of the ACLU of Florida.

In his professional career, Cramer has worked with the Small Business Administration of Peru, Microsoft, Bank of America, and many other groups, organizations, and companies. Cramer is an entrepreneur and currently the owner of Casa Verde Real Estate and Cramer Strategic Consulting, a marketing-political consulting company. He is a car aficionado, dog lover, husband, and is always looking at different ways to support and defend his community from any threats or harm.

For this and more, we honor Cramer Verde.

ISABELLA FREUND MISS TEEN

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I am honored to be able to recognize Isabella Freund who was announced Miss New Jersey Outstanding Teen. A South Jersey native, Isabella will go on to represent our state in the